Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Previously presented) A composition for enhancing an immune response in an animal comprising:
   (a) a virus-like particle;
   (b) an immunostimulatory nucleic acid;
   wherein said immunostimulatory nucleic acid (b) is packaged within said virus-like particle (a);
   (c) at least one antigen, wherein said antigen is mixed with or coupled to said virus-like particle (a); and
   (d) at least one toll-like receptor (TLR) ligand;
   wherein said immunostimulatory nucleic acid (b) activates a TLR that is different than the TLR activated by the ligand (d).

2. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein said TLR ligand (d) is mixed with said VLP.

3-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously presented)The composition of claim 1, wherein said ligand (d) is a ligand for TLR 4.

6-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein said immunostimulatory nucleic acid is an unmethylated CpG-containing oligonucleotide.

11-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 10, wherein the CpG motif of said unmethylated CpG-containing oligonucleotide is part of a palindromic sequence.

15. (Currently amended) The composition of claim [[5]] 14, wherein said palindromic sequence is GACGATCGTC (SEQ ID NO: 39).

16. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 10, wherein said unmethylated CpG-containing oligonucleotide comprises the sequence GGG GGG GGG GGA CGA TCG TCG GGG GGG GGG (SEQ ID NO: 54).

17-32. (Cancelled)

33. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein said immunostimulatory nucleic acid (b) is an unmethylated CpG-containing oligonucleotide and wherein said ligand (d) is a ligand for TLR 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10 or 11.

34. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 33, wherein said immunostimulatory nucleic acid (b) is an unmethylated CpG-containing oligonucleotide and wherein said ligand (d) is a ligand for TLR4.

35-40. (Cancelled)

41. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein said virus-like particle comprises recombinant proteins, or fragments thereof, of a RNA-phage, wherein said RNA-phage is bacteriophage Qβ or bacteriophage AP205.

42-46. (Cancelled)

47. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein said antigen (c) is isolated from a natural source, wherein said natural source is selected from the group consisting of:

(a) pollen extract;

(b) dust extract;

(c) dust mite extract;

(d) fungal extract;

(e) mammalian epidermal extract;

(f) feather extract;

(g) insect extract;

(h) food extract[[,]];

(i) hair extract;

(j) saliva extract; and

(k) serum extract.

48. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein said antigen (c) is derived from the group consisting of:

(a) viruses;

(b) bacteria;

(c) parasites;

(d) prions;

(e) tumors;

(f) self-molecules;

(g) non-peptidic hapten molecules;

(h) allergens; and

(i) hormones.

49. (Cancelled)

50. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein said antigen (c) is a tumor antigen, wherein said tumor antigen is selected from the group consisting of:

(a) Her2;

(b) GD2;

(c) EGF-R;

(d) CEA;

(e) CD52;

(f) human melanoma protein gp100;

(g) human melanoma protein melan-A/MART-1;

(h) tyrosinase;

(i) NA17-A nt protein;

(j) MAGE-3 protein;

(k) p53 protein;

(l) HPV16 E7 protein;

(m) an analogue of any one of the antigens from (a) to (l); and

(n) antigenic fragments of any one of the tumor antigens from (a) to (m).

51. (Cancelled)

52. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein said antigen (c) is an allergen, wherein said allergen is derived from the group consisting of:

(a) pollen extract;

(b) dust extract;

(c) dust mite extract;

(d) fungal extract;

(e) mammalian epidermal extract;

(f) feather extract;

(g) insect extract;

(h) food extract;

(i) hair extract;

(j) saliva extract; and

(k) serum extract.

53. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein said antigen (c) is an allergen, wherein said allergen is selected from the group consisting of:

(a) trees;

(b) grasses;

(c) house dust;

(d) house dust mite;

(e) aspergillus;

(f) animal hair;

(g) animal feather;

(h) bee venom;

(i) animal products; and

(j) plant products.

54. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein said antigen (c) is selected from the group consisting of:

(a) bee venom phospholipase A_2;

(b) ragweed pollen Amb a 1;

(c) birch pollen Bet v I;

(d) white faced hornet venom 5 Dol m V;

(e) house dust mite Der p 1;

(f) house dust mite Der f 2;

(g) house dust mite Der 2;

(h) dust mite Lep d;

(i) fungus allergen Alt a 1;

(j) fungus allergen Asp f 1;

(k) fungus allergen Asp f 16; and

(l) peanut allergens.

55. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein said antigen (c) is a cytotoxic T cell epitope, a Th cell epitope or a combination of at least two of said

epitopes, wherein said at least two epitopes are bound directly or by way of a linking sequence.

56. (Cancelled)

57. (Withdrawn) A method for enhancing an immune response in an animal comprising introducing into said animal a composition comprising a composition of claim 1.

58-62. (Cancelled)

63. (Withdrawn) A method for the treatment of a disorder or disease selected from the group consisting of, allergies, tumors, chronic diseases and chronic viral diseases, the method comprising introducing into said animal a composition of claim 1.

64. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 34, wherein said ligand (d) is LPS or a derivative thereof.